

MALISSA LOTT SMITH WILLES.

Biography from the Lehi Centennial History

Malissa Lott Smith Willes, daughter of Cornelius P. and Permelia Darrow Lott, was born January 9, 1824, in Luzerne County, Pennsylvania. Her parents were born in New York and were staunch members of the Church of Jesus Christ Latter-day Saints. Malissa was baptized into the Church at the age of 14 years.

She was married to the Prophet Joseph Smith September 20, 1843, by Hyrum Smith, at Nauvoo. At this time she was 19 years and 9 months of age. She lived with the Prophet until his death, which occurred nine months after their marriage.

Malissa crossed the plains with her parents one year following the arrival of the pioneers in Utah. She was married to Ira Jones Willes May 13, 1849, after his return from the Mormon Battalion. She was the mother of seven children, as follows: Ira Pratt (deceased), Cornelius John (deceased), Achsah Permelia (deceased), Polly Malissa (Mrs. Wm. W. Clark), Lyman Benjamin, Stephen Eleazar, and Sarah Amanda (Mrs. Albert K. Mulliner).

She died July 13, 1898.